



EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION NO. 44 BJ 2015

STATE OF EMERGENCY – MARCH 4, 2015 WINTER WEATHER

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Homeland Security and Emergency Assistance and Disaster Act, R.S. 29:721, *et seq.*, confers upon the Governor of the State of Louisiana emergency powers to deal with emergencies and disasters, including those caused by fire, flood, earthquake, or other natural or manmade causes, in order to ensure that preparations of this state will be adequate to deal with such emergencies or disasters and to preserve the lives and property of the people of the State of Louisiana;

WHEREAS, when the Governor determines that a disaster or emergency has occurred, or the threat thereof is imminent, R.S. 29:724(B)(1) empowers the Governor to declare a state of emergency by executive order or proclamation, or both;

WHEREAS, the National Weather Service reports a strong arctic cold front moving from Texas across the Eastern United States, bringing sleet and freezing rain which will impact the Southern states, including this State, over the next several days, and potentially resulting in accumulations of ice on roadways and hazardous winter weather conditions throughout the northern portion of the State;

WHEREAS, the National Weather Service has issued a winter weather advisory and winter storm warning for Northern parishes over the next twenty-four hours with below freezing, night-time temperatures predicted into the weekend making driving conditions extremely hazardous and significant amounts of ice and sleet and snow are expected;

WHEREAS, currently school districts and state offices in the parishes of Grant and Rapides have been closed for Thursday due to the hazards posed by this extreme winter weather, and these winter weather conditions threaten the lives and property of the citizens of the State of Louisiana.

NOW THEREFORE I, BOBBY JINDAL, Governor of the State of Louisiana, by virtue of the authority vested by the Constitution and laws of the State of Louisiana, do hereby order and direct as follows:

SECTION 1: Pursuant to the Louisiana Homeland Security and Emergency Assistance and Disaster Act, R.S. 29:721, *et seq.*, a state of emergency is declared to exist in the State of Louisiana as a result of the extreme cold weather conditions that threaten the lives and property of the citizens of the State.

SECTION 2: The Director of the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness is hereby authorized to undertake any activity authorized by law which he deems necessary and appropriate in response to this declaration.

SECTION 3: All departments, commissions, boards, agencies and officers of the State, or any political subdivision thereof, are authorized and directed to cooperate in actions the State may take in response to the effects of this severe cold weather.

SECTION 4: This state of emergency extends from Wednesday, March 4, 2015 to Thursday, April 2, 2015 unless terminated sooner.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of Louisiana, at the Capitol, in the City of Baton Rouge, on this 4th day of March, 2015.

/s/ Bobby Jindal
GOVERNOR OF LOUISIANA

**ATTEST BY
THE GOVERNOR**

/s/ Tom Schedler
SECRETARY OF STATE